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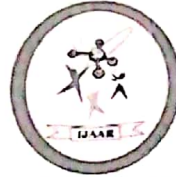
Dr. N.S. Girde

Assistant Professor & Head Dept. of History

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**ENRICHING THE NATION THROUGH EMPOWERING WOMEN – CHALLENGES  
AND OPPORTUNITIES**

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**Dr. T. Vijaya Chithra**

*Assistant Professor, PG Department of Commerce (CA), Nallamuthu Gounder Mahalingam College,  
Pollachi, [drijavachithra@gmail.com](mailto:drijavachithra@gmail.com)*

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**Abstract :**

Women are considered to be an important factor in every home in the earlier days. Women play the role as a Daughter, Sister, Wife, Mother, and Daughter-in-Law and so on. There is no place on the earth without her existence in different forms. In olden days women were given a place at home with all sorts of household responsibilities which was successfully carried out by her. Once, education was not so important for her or not offered for her. Equal opportunities were forbidden for her. Trend has changed. Women started competing with men and take part equally or more than of a man in every field of success. The succeeded in bring out a balance between their household works and enriching their career equally. It can be said that, there are no sectors left out without the stepping up of women. Many women have become the role models heading their Country and States, IASSs, IPSs, Successful Entrepreneurs, Scientists, researchers, Journalists and take a lead role in many important fields. Hence this research paper focuses on finding out the challenges and opportunities of Women in enriching the Nation. Theoretical views have been analysed and suggestions were meant based on analysing the reviews which focus on the women empowerment challenges and opportunities.

**Keywords:** Women Empowerment, Challenges, Opportunities, Enriching the Nation

**Introduction :**

Women are considered to be an important factor in every home in the earlier days. Women play the role as a Daughter, Sister, Wife, Mother, and Daughter-in-Law and so on. There is no place on the earth without her existence in different forms. In olden days women were given a place at home with all sorts of household responsibilities which was successfully carried out by her. Once, education was not so important for her or not offered for her. Equal opportunities were forbidden for her. Trend has changed. Women started competing with men and take part equally or more than of a man in every field of success. The succeeded in bring out a balance between their household works and enriching their career equally. It can be said that, there are no sectors left out without the stepping up of women. Many women have become the role models heading their Country and States, IASSs, IPSs, Successful Entrepreneurs, Scientists, researchers, Journalists and take a lead role in many important fields.

**National Policy for Women Empowerment – Its Goals :**

Government of India has framed National Policy for the Empowerment of Women during the 2001 under the control of Ministry of Women and Child Empowerment. This mainly focuses on providing equal opportunity for women as well as in adopting measures relating to positive discrimination in favour of women community. The Non-Government Organisations also offer a deep grass-root to empower women by offering special privileges to uplift the women concerns. The National Policy mainly focuses on three areas of enriching women namely Advancement, Empowerment and Development of them. Steps were taken to provide women with equality in participating and making decisions in the fields of Political, Economic and Social well-being of the Nation. Women were also focused equally in taking care of their health, getting high class of education, directions for upliftment of their career and extracurricular talent development sectors, job opportunities and pays, work place and societal safety and so on.

**Policy Focus Areas :**

The policy focused on various arenas for empowering women such as:

- Judicial System of Law which enacted Laws to protect women and offer punishments to the lawbreakers through faster judgements.
- Women were allowed to participate and offer better decisions in all levels of legislative, judicial, corporate, committees, trusts through women friendly policies.
- Women focus were given in framing policies, programmes and procedures.
- Economic wellbeing of women were taken care through poverty eradication through needful helping hand.
- Micro credit support were extended to uplift women from poverty line.

- Policies relating women employment and their working conditions were framed.
- Agricultural Farming training programmes were arranged for women to strengthen their capabilities in various sectors like husbandry, poultry and fishing, horticulture etc.,
- Support were extended to women in industrial sectors too like Information Technology, food industry, agro based industry by providing necessary help and security for their wellness.
- Supportive services like child care crèches in work environment as well as in their children's schools, stay place for the old and disables were also offered to make them to work better.
- Eradication of illiteracy through offering a better quality of education, caste system inequalities were also focused and rectified by providing equal or rational opportunities.
- Infant and Maternal mortality were taken care and health care measures were also taken by avoiding malnutrition and diseases caused out of it.
- Related facilities like good sanitation, toilets, waste disposal, and clean water were provided as a means of basic health care.
- Special measures were taken to provide shelter for women at various categories like single women, households and working women, girl students etc.,

#### **Notion Behind The Study & Challenges In Women Empowerment :**

Women are empowering is an agreeable inference from the observation that over the past twenty years, the number of women as MPs has doubled and so Women in Power is no longer said to be a rarity (Addressed by H.E. Mrs. Maria Fernanda Espinosa Garcés, President of UN in General Assembly of the United Nations – 73<sup>rd</sup> session on 3.7.2019). the notion behind the present study is to make focus still on the women's status in Education, Economy, Political, Sex Ratios, Gender Equality, Prohibition of Child Marriage, Steps to protect women from crimes against them.

#### **Theme And Suggestions For Women Empowerment :**

- Steps shall be taken vigorously to increase the educational level of women and girl children through special schemes like Home based education and compulsory school level education. Monetary and non-monetary benefits shall be offered for those women and girl children to encourage learning.
- Government and Non-Government Organisations shall offer schemes to various rural women locality wise in generating their own business and self-employment.
- Technological awareness programmes to compete shall be provided for women to eradicate technical illiteracy.
- The major issue that has to be focused in large is about women and girl children's security which is highly a challenging arena for the country as everyday there are news relating to women and girls being abused sexually and brutally being killed. Hardened punishments at fastened levels would help in reduction at the beginning stage and suppression of these in a period of time completely.
- Safety and security based skill trainings and communication regarding the abusing shall be made easier for the women to bring it into focus immediately and get protected.
- Women should come out of their restricted circle made by themselves and empower and compete the world and such trust should be built in by themselves and mental health and awareness programmes focusing on these areas shall be given training for them.
- Freedom to participate in the social, economic and Nations growth shall be given as women are considered to be a better idea generators too. Such opportunities will make the women strengthen mentally and feel pride of their own behalf.
- Every single sector of career opportunity should voluntarily offer the chance for women and place them in high order positions to break up the gender inequalities and enrich the confidence level of the women and on seeing their valuable positions, empower other women too to move to higher levels in their life as well as career.

#### **Conclusion :**

The growth level of women in Social, Educational, Political, Employment arenas and other areas too are still in alert to get improvised. Hence, it is time to focus and identify the ambiguities that are hindering the empowerment of women and immediate focus should be given and related policies shall be enforced by Law to empower women sector. Not only the women in Northern region are needs empowerment but also women belonging to throughout the Nation needs improvement. Women population is higher or equal throughout the country but still gender discrimination exists in higher degree. Hence it's the duty of the people at home, the Government, the Society and the world on the whole to take the

responsibility of women's growth as "Women are generally considered as eyes of our Nation and empowering the women will automatically enrich the Nation on the whole". The empowerment of women has become one of the most important of 21<sup>st</sup> century not only at the National level but it has become the International scenario. Government initiatives alone will not be enough to succeed with this goal but the society on the whole has to take steps to create a positive situation where there exists no gender inequalities and women are provided with great freedom in self-decision process and get them completely involved in social, economic and political progress of the Nation with equal opportunity.

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